

Message Text

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70

ACTION ARA-10

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R 110210Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3101

INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMEMBASSY QUITO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PE

SUBJECT: AYACUCHO SESQUICENTENNIAL: PRESIDENT VELASCO'S SPEECH

REF: LIMA 10424

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. MAIN POINTS OF PRESIDENT VELASCO'S SPEECH AT THE SIGNING OF THE DECEMBER 9 AYACUCHO DECLARATION (REFTEL) ARE REPORTED HEREIN. TEXT WILL BE SENT TO DEPARTMENT SEPARATELY.

2. VELASCO EMPHASIZED THE NEED TO LIVE UP TO IDEALS WHICH MOTIVATED PERU'S FOUNDING FATHERS, E.G. A DETERMINATION TO OBTAIN INDEPENDENCE. HE SAID THAT COUNTRIES CANNOT BE FREE IF THE ECONOMIC UNDERPINNINGS OF THEIR SOCIETIES ARE IN THE HANDS OF FOREIGNERS. NOR CAN THERE BE FREEDOM AS LONG AS THERE IS SOCIAL INJUSTICE, AS LONG AS POWER AND WEALTH ARE IN THE HANDS OF PRIVILEGED GROUPS. HE STATED THAT COUNTRIES MUST BE

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FREE OF FOREIGN PRESSURES AND THEIR PEOPLES FREE OF ECONOMIC

AND POLITICAL EXPLOITATION.

3. QTE. AT THE PRESENT HOUR, GREAT AND SINGULAR DANGERS CONFRONT US. THE OLD IMPETUS OF THE GREAT POWERS TO DOMINATE, WHICH WE HAVE KNOWN WELL THROUGHOUT OUR HISTORY, TODAY TAKES ON NEW, SUBTLE FORMS. OUR ECONOMIES SUFFER THE IMPACT OF VARIOUS AND REFINED MECHANISMS OF PENETRATION AND CONTROL. OUR HUGE NATURAL RICHES ARE NOT YET EXPLOITED DIRECTLY AND FULLY ON BEHALF OF OUR PEOPLES. DIFFERENT FORMS OF CULTURAL INFLUENCES DISTORT AND BLUR THE SENSE OF OUR OWN TRADITIONS, OUR OWN VALUES, AND OUR HISTORIC PERSONALITY. AND AT THE SAME TIME, POWERFUL INTERNATIONAL INTERESTS TRY TO UNDERMINE THE PEACE AND UNITY OF OUR PEOPLES, STIMULATING THE GROWTH OF RIVALRIES WHICH PIT BROTHER AGAINST BROTHER. END QTE.

4. QTE. THE MAINTENANCE OF THE PEACE IS, WITHOUT QUESTION, A REQUISITE FOR THE REAL DEVELOPMENT OF OUR COUNTRIES AND THE ATTAINMENT OF THE HIGHEST IDEALS OF ITS PEOPLES. THAT IS WHY PERU SPONSORED AS A PRINCIPAL PART OF THE AYACUCHO DECLARATION, TWO PROPOSALS WHICH ARE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE VERY ESSENCE OF A PACIFIST POSITION. THE FIRST REFERRED TO THE NECESSITY OF ADOPTING A GENERAL POLICY OF LIMITING THE PURCHASE OF OFFENSIVE ARMAMENTS (ARMAMENTOS CON FINES BELICOS) FREEING THE GREATEST POSSIBLE QUANTITY OF RESOURCES FOR THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF OUR COUNTRIES. THE SECOND POSITION CONSISTED IN PROPOSING THAT OUR COUNTRIES ACT JOINTLY WHEN CONFRONTED WITH A DIFFICULT SITUATION ENDANGERING THEIR PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE; AND THAT, IN THE CASE OF CONFLICT BETWEEN TWO OR MORE OF THEM, THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE OTHER COUNTRIES ACT IMMEDIATELY AND DIRECTLY, THROUGH THEIR FOREIGN AND DEFENSE MINISTERS, TO RE-ESTABLISH, WITHOUT ANY DELAY, THE REIGN OF PEACE. END QTE. END UNCLASSIFIED.

5. COMMENT: PERU'S DETERMINATION TO RID THE COUNTRY OF FOREIGN ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL INFLUENCES IS PART AND PARCEL OF THE PERUVIAN REVOLUTION. HOWEVER, PRESIDENT VELASCO'S SWEEPING TEN-YEAR MORATORIUM ON THE PURCHASE OF ARMS, FIRST PROPOSED IN JANUARY, APPEARS TO HAVE UNDERGONE A CHANGE AS THE IDEA IS NOW TO LIMIT THE FREEZE ON PURCHASES LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TO "BELLICOSE" ARMS. THE MOST SIGNIFICANT PORTION OF VELASCO'S ADDRESS IS HIS ANNOUNCEMENT THAT PERU PROPOSED THAT THE SIGNATORIES OF THE AYACUCHO DECLARATION ACT JOINTLY TO RESTORE PEACE IN THE EVENT OF A REGIONAL WAR, SUCH AS THE ONE THAT IS OFTEN SPECULATED ABOUT BETWEEN PERU AND CHILE. THIS RECOMMENDATION PRESUMABLY WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN MADE BY A NATION CONTEMPLATING WAR AGAINST CHILE. DEAN

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